UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
COLOMBIA

IPF:(1987-91) $ 12 100 000

(COL/91/012) - Public Sector Reform

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	24 July 1991
Expected duration:	Two years
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	National Planning Department
Proposed UNDP contribution:	nil
Government cost sharing:	$ 9 756 000 Source of funds: IBRD & IDB
Total UNDP budget:	$ 9 756 000

Project background

Colombia's development strategy has redefined the role of the State in order to concentrate its activities in the management of development, rationalizing the size and functions of the public sector and increasing the participation of other development agents such as the private sector and the non-governmental organizations. The Government of Colombia is presently implementing a programme for the reform and modernization of the State and the public sector in order to achieve a more competitive, efficient and productive economy. UNDP has been assisting the Government in the implementation of this programme under the project (COL/88/018) State Reform. Special support was given to the Presidency of the Republic in the process of State structural reform, modernization and democratization. As a result, a Presidential Commission was created and its recommendations have provided important inputs for the design of the new constitution of the country and have been acted upon by the present Administration of President Gaviria. Furthermore, with MDP funding, the project (COL/89/501) Development for the Management Capacity of the Public Sector has been assisting the Government to improve the management capacity of the countries public administration.

With the introduction of the modernization strategy of the national government, it was considered important to design a project, whose fundamental objective is to reform the decentralized institutions of the public sector to improve their efficiency. Mechanisms and procedures between the central government and the decentralized institutions also need to be properly redefined to facilitate the implementation of the programme. It is also important to point out the lack of control mechanisms which have lead to improper use and

[1] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

allocation of resources.

The Government therefore has requested UNDP assistance in the implementation of this programme, particularly the institutions that have a budgetary relation with the Ministry of Finance and a substantive relation with the National Planning Department. The World Bank and the Interamerican Development Bank have thus granted loans to the Government in order to implement the required reforms and modernization of these institutions.

Description of project

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) support the modernization and decentralization of the State; (b) strengthen the capacity of the decentralized institutions of the public sector; (c) streamline and strengthen the links between central government and decentralized institutions; and (d) improve the efficiency of specific decentralized institutions for the provision of services in sectors such as ports, railroads, maritime and air transportation, agricultural marketing, health, telecommunications, and public works.

Project activities will include: (a) establishing law proposals for streamlining the relation between central government and decentralized institutions; (b) integrating information networks in the different sectors; (c) privatizing strategies for some of the institutions; (d) conducting specific studies for the formulation of performance plans for decentralized institutions; (e) formulating investment programmes; (f) identifying technical assistance needs; (g) definiting public utilities charges; and (h) training professional personnel at the central government and at decentralized institutions.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 100 work-months of international and national professional personnel in several specialized areas; subcontracts for the provision of specialized services in each of the institutions ; seminars, visits and in-service training of professional personnel in central government positions and decentralized institutions; equipment for information systems and computers; administrative support; mission, reporting and sundry costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	947 000
Subcontract	5 370 000
Training	1 219 000
Equipment	2 000 000
Miscellaneous	200 000
Total	9 756 000

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